UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25634
20 April 1993
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

LETTER DATED 19 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to inform you that Armenia's current foreign policy activities, which are designed to conceal from the international community that country's direct involvement in the acts of aggression and occupation of territories of Azerbaijan, compel me to recall the following facts.

1. The aggression perpetuated by Armenia against Azerbaijan with a view to acquiring new territories is nothing more or less than the implementation, by military means, of an act passed by that country's supreme legislative authority - a resolution of the Supreme Council of Armenia, adopted as long ago as 1989.

2. Following this with further gross violations of the sovereignty of the Azerbaijani State, the Supreme Council of Armenia adopted a resolution on the formation in Azerbaijani territory of 12 electoral districts and the holding in those areas of elections to the Supreme Council of Armenia. This led, in May 1990, to the holding in the territory of Azerbaijan by representatives of the Armenian Government of illegal elections to the Supreme Council of Armenia. Subsequently, the Supreme Council of Armenia adopted a resolution recognizing the authority of the deputies of the Supreme Council of Armenia, including those deputies who had been elected in the territory of Azerbaijan, in Nagorny Karabakh.

It should be noted that this resolution was signed by Mr. L. Ter-Petrossian, at the time Chairman of the Supreme Council of Armenia and currently President of the Republic of Armenia.

The Supreme Council of Armenia elected at that time remains in place, and the deputies illegally elected in the territory of Azerbaijan are full members of the Armenian Parliament, participating in its work and voting on various legislative and State acts, while many of them simultaneously hold leadership positions in the so-called Nagorny Karabakh Republic.

3. The Supreme Council of Armenia has also adopted a resolution on the incorporation of plans for the economic development of Nagorny Karabakh into the State programme for the economic development of Armenia.

4. After Armenia's admission to membership in the United Nations and to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), the Supreme Council of Armenia adopted as a resolution in June 1992 which, according to a Radio Erevan report of 10 July 1992, stressed that, on the basis of international law, and considering as unacceptable the recognition of the Nagorny Karabakh Republic as an integral part of Azerbaijan, the Supreme Council of Armenia had decided to:

- Defend, from the territory of the Republic of Armenia, the Nagorny Karabakh Republic and its population;

- Reject any acceptance by the Republic of Armenia of any instrument recognizing the Nagorny Karabakh Republic as an integral part of Azerbaijan;

- Undertake military mobilization in the Republic of Armenia.

As can be seen from the above, Armenia, brazenly flouting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Azerbaijan and totally ignoring international law, first adopted legislation on a unilateral basis to annex part of the territory of another State and then extended, de jure and de facto its jurisdiction over this territory, including in the military sphere.

I would draw particular attention to the fact that, since the referendum on Armenian sovereignty, the Supreme Council of Armenia has adopted no legislative acts setting aside the effect of the above-mentioned resolutions, which remain in force and are being implemented; to make matters worse, new acts are being adopted.

It is perfectly clear that all these facts irrefutably bear witness to Armenia's intentions to expand its territory at the expense of the territories of another State, namely Azerbaijan, intentions which are currently being put into effect through aggression and the occupation by the armed forces of Armenia of more than 10 per cent of the territory of Azerbaijan.

Armenia's ill-disguised territorial claims on Azerbaijan, its continued aggression against a sovereign State and its refusal to withdraw its troops from occupied Azerbaijani territories, thereby seriously jeopardizing peace and security in the region, convincingly demonstrate that the time has come for the Security Council, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, to take effective measures to halt Armenia's aggression against Azerbaijan.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Permanent Representative